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The Shirkers Must Enlist

London, Dec. 29.—The greatest parliamentary battle in many decades was foreshadowed today by the authoritative announcement that the government intends to introduce next week a bill providing for conscription.

Before parliament meets to hear from Premier Asquith, the labor party may make known its decision on compulsory service. Some hope was expressed by conscription leaders that the laborites will not solidly oppose the modified form of conscription underdotted to be planned by the government, though reiterating their opposition to the principle of compulsory service.

The solid opposition of the Irish party, if Ireland is included in the conscription, is expected. In many quarters it was reported today that the government will exclude Ireland to escape the antagonism of John Redmond and other Irish leaders. At the same time such a course is bound to draw vitriolic attacks from other members.

The cabinet will meet again Friday. It is understood the form of conscription bill to be introduced next week will be considered. It is generally believed that it will order into service first only unmarried men who have no dependents, with provision that all unmarried men, and later, married men, may be drafted if found necessary.

The best estimates place that less than 300,000 unmarried men eligible for service, and without dependents, would be added to the service, the great majority having volunteered under the Derby plan. Recruiting officials expressed little hope that these men will come forward voluntarily before the government acts.

London, Dec. 29 (1.45 a.m.).—In order to give time for a possible reconciliation of conflicting opinions on the recruiting question, a cabinet council, which was called for today, has been further postponed until Friday, and there is very great hope that it will then be found that the cabinet is in practical agreement on the acceptance of Premier Asquith's proposals.

It has become known that the prime minister found much greater support than had been supposed, some of the anti-conscriptionist ministers having realized that a peculiar situation calls for exceptional treatment. Among these are A. J. Balfour, first lord of the admiralty, whose influence is very great, and Arthur Henderson, who, however, will be guided by the views of the labor party.

Earl Kitchener, the war minister, also has at last defended his opinion that the time is ripe for conscription. Much depends upon the attitude of Reginald McKenna, president of the Board of Trade, both important members of the cabinet. But there is tonight a hopeful feeling that they may yet be induced to support the premier in the interests of ministerial unity.

Sir Edward Grey, the foreign secretary, looks with great apprehension upon any sign of disagreement as having a bad effect upon the allies, and is working hard on the path of conciliation, and if it turns out that the line the government has chosen is not for compulsory direct enlistment, but for compulsory attestation along the lines of the Derby scheme, it is very probable that most of the doubtful ministers may be supporting the premier and that the resignations will be confined to two or three ministers of lesser importance, such as Lewis Harcourt, first commissioner of works, and Sir John Simon, home secretary, whose departure would not involve a serious crisis.

A strong point making for unity on the new government policy is that with much less opposition from the Liberal press than might have

been expected. The royal influence is also being exerted, the King having publicly intimated his special desire that all the men who attested under Earl Derby should wear the symbolic armband issued in connection with the scheme.

Much will depend upon the attitude of the labor party, which, although strongly opposed to conscription, may possibly be swayed by Mr. Henderson's view that the exceptional circumstances justify exceptional means.

According to the Daily Chronicle, the new bill will be a short measure, calling upon unmarried men between the ages of 19 and 40 years to attest in their age groups within a specified period of time, and under the same privileges as the Derby recruits, with serious penalties for non-compliance.

According to the Times, Mr. McKenna bases his opposition partly on personal doubt regarding the size of the military forces required by Great Britain to win the war, and partly on Great Britain's financial commitments both at home and by way of loans to her allies. Mr. McKenna, the newspaper adds, is concerned to maintain the volume of trade, which he regards as an indispensable factor in the British war equipment.

Mr. McKenna thinks, the Times says, "that the financial commitments already are as heavy as Great Britain is able to bear. Mr. Runciman's objection is based on the necessity of maintaining our exports regardless of these objections."

The Times argues that had the Earl of Derby's enlistment scheme been successful its results would have been the same as will be obtained by conscription, and that the question how the men are obtained cannot affect the economic problem.

Various opinions are advanced concerning Mr. McKenna and Mr. Runciman. While the Times appears to think their opposition is irreconcilable, the Morning Post believes they will waver. The Times says it thinks the labor party will come into line.

Both the Times and the Daily Mail anticipate that when the matter comes before parliament much of the opposition will be found to have evaporated in deference to the strong public opinion in favor of Premier Asquith's view.

The Daily Mail, as an indication of the trend of the labor view in the situation, quotes G. H. Roberts, member of parliament, a lifelong enemy of conscription, as saying:

"There is something worse than conscription, and that is a national defeat."

ASQUITH FAVORS

COMPULSION TO

ENFORCE PLEDGE

London, Dec. 29.—The following explanation of the cabinet situation will appear in the newspapers of London tomorrow (Thursday) morning, furnished by the Canadian Press Association:

"It has been generally expected that Premier Asquith's pledge to married men would be carried out in letter and spirit, but the view is held in some quarters that a further chance for single men to enroll would not be inconsistent with the fulfillment of that pledge. The premier himself rejected this interpretation of his words, and informed the cabinet that resort to conscription was called for in his opinion not only to carry through an honorable obligation, but also, it was needed, in the present state of the war to provide a steady flow of reinforcements for the various battle fronts.

"On the question of compulsory service for single men, with relegations to later groups of men engaged in reserved occupations, there is no difference of principle within the cabinet."

"Until the details of the procedure are definitely settled there is no expectation of per-

sonal changes in the administration. It is recognized, however, that to pass at the present stage from the well-defined case of the single men and so set up a general obligation to military service upon adult population would introduce difficulties.

"In a matter which touches so many ingrained prejudices, the government may be expected to move warily. The ministers must be prepared for some opposition to their proposals, however limited in form.

"It is undoubted that the government will carry a majority of the House of Commons with them for any reasonable scheme, and anything like organized obstruction is unthinkable. For the smooth passage of the bill it is possible that the measure will not apply to Ireland.

"The case of Ireland is exceptional, since registration there has only been carried out in a partial manner, and there has been no attestation there under the Derby group system. The cabinet will do its utmost to meet all objections and secure a measure of general agreement, which the premier declares essential."

MILITARY TRAINING OR CONSCRIPTION FOR UNITED STATES

Washington, Dec. 29.—The United States, like Great Britain, may face the necessity of military conscription unless this government gives to her citizens military training, according to Mr. Chamberlain, chairman of the senate militia committee.

Conscription will be a last resort, Mr. Chamberlain said. He said there was a marked difference between conscription and compulsory training of citizen soldiery as proposed in his compulsory training bill, framed after the Swiss system.

"There never will be compulsory military service conscription—in this country until we are licked by a first-class power, as we will be some day," said Mr. Chamberlain. "To prevent conscription a universal military education is an immediate and principal need."

"I favor such preparedness as will enable our country to defend itself in time of need and, particularly at a time when our great power (England) has swept our commerce from the seas, and other (Germany) is destroying the lives of our citizens, and a third (Japan) is ready at any time to take the advantage of the American people that the Japanese are not our equals."

SUBMARINE SINKS FINE JAPANESE STEAMER

London, Dec. 23.—The new Japanese liner Yashika Maru, previously reported, as having been sunk in the eastern Mediterranean Tuesday by a submarine while the steamer was on her way from London to Japan, with 120 passengers and a crew of 160 aboard, was sent to the bottom without warning, according to a report received from Port Said from agents of the owners. All of those on board the ship, including one American passenger, W. L. H. were saved. The nationality of the submarine is not mentioned by the agents and previous reports referred to the sinking of the ship as done by either an Austrian or a German submarine. The Yashika Maru was sunk Tuesday afternoon.

SPECTACULAR SUICIDE

St. Thomas, Ont., Dec. 23.—Despondent through continued ill-health, Mrs. Mary Webb, wife of Edward Webb, a prominent Middlemarch farmer, Wednesday climbed to the top of a windmill at her home and leaped 50 feet to death within sight of her husband and two daughters. The marriage of her eldest daughter, Mabel, which was to take place last evening, was postponed indefinitely.

Strange Patriotism of Union Labor

"Either we must tell the soldiers that we are sorry that we cannot get the guns to enable them to continue throughout 1916, owing to the trade union regulations, or we must tell them that if they manage to hold out for another year perhaps American workmen will help us get a sufficient supply for 1917."—Lloyd George.

Right Hon. Lloyd George's appeal to the labor unionists of England, delivered in the House of Commons the other day, is decidedly depressing. Think of a British Minister in the face of the greatest emergency that the Empire has ever faced—when the very existence of the nation hangs in the balance—deeming it necessary to plead with any class to suspend temporarily its arbitrary rules, designed to apply to peace conditions! Surely there is something the matter with the attitude of mind of the great masses of the British people, when Mr. Lloyd George is compelled to take such a position!

The Government is armed by Parliament with full authority to exact the most unquestioning obedience from all classes during the course of the war, in the interests of the nation. Yet on several occasions the Government has been insolently defied by men who mistakenly think that their own peace-time private interests are of more importance than the salvation of their country. Such men do not stop to think that, if through their pig-headedness, stupidity, or unwillingness to make sacrifices this great war should be lost, their rights and privileges of all kinds would be absolutely obliterated and stamped out under the heel of tyranny. They would be a fire brigade that would squabble over positions on the fire engine while their homes were burning. They give evidence not only of an entire lack of patriotism, but of such an inability to grasp the obligations of citizenship that they constitute a menace that later on can scarcely fail to be regarded as a sound argument in support of a movement to deprive them of all power to work mischief in the future. Hogwash employers and equally hogwash employees scrambling like ghouls to steal valuable trinkets from the nation's mutilated body will be so bitterly remembered after this war that ways and means will be provided by the great majority of the people for so controlling them in the future that they will have it in their power to control their own destinies and to abuse that absurdly extravagant freedom that has become a fruitful source of national weakness in the hour of greatest trial.

The Minister of Munitions wants eighty thousand skilled workmen to man the munitions factories. He wants, also, from two hundred to three hundred thousand unskilled workmen for the same purpose. He expresses a doubt of his ability to get these men because of certain union rules that might interfere with this work of national salvation. A Labor member of Parliament thereupon rises in his place and states that he is open for negotiations! He says the unions would probably be willing to let these union and non-union men work side by side in the Government factories, provided that the Government will pass an Act that will separate these unionists and non-unionists at the end of the war. In other words, he wants an Act passed that will provide for the throwing out of employment two or three hundred thousand laborers who will work during the war for the nation's preservation. Fine! exalted patriotism, generosity and gratitude! The Parliament of Great Britain can pass any law that it

chooses. But at the end of the war it will be the people themselves who will decide what the economic and social system of the future is to be. Are they likely to decide in favor of the men who want to bargain while their country is in danger? Are they likely to decide to increase the power of a democracy? Or will they regard the experiences of the present as a lesson, a warning, to provide such an economic and social system as will prevent clique rule, whether by employers or employees—the clique rule which has been a chief handicap to British efficiency in war during sixteen awful months, and that has cost the nation scores of thousands of valuable lives that would have been saved, had a real democracy, properly led and schooled to sacrifice, obtained? Those who glory in the exercise of a paralyzing power at this moment, when their country is in distress, will live to curse the day when their infatuation led them into an attitude for which the whole people will, as surely as fate, demand and exact complete satisfaction.

NERVY VON PAPAN CARRIES BLUFF THROUGH TO END

New York, Dec. 22.—Captain von Papan, the military attaché at Washington, left New York for Rotterdam today on the steamer Noordam, bearing a safe conduct to Germany from the Entente Allies. He issued his final statement to the American people before departing:

"I leave my post without any feeling of bitterness because I know too well, that when history is once written it will establish our clean records despite all the misrepresentations and calumnies spread broadcast at present. Certain newspapers have made reckless charges which could not be supported by evidence, but the United States government never intimated that it believed these charges to be true. After all, this war will not be won by the Providence Journal and the Evening Telegram, with the hypenated supporters. It will be decided by the success of the invincible German arms."

The captain was accompanied to the pier at Hoboken by a few friends, with whom he chatted while his baggage was being examined. The examination of all baggage going aboard ship was put in force for the first time today by the Holland-American line. Officials of the line declined to give any specific reasons for it.

CHURCH UNION CARRIED IN CANADA BY 57,000 VOTES

Toronto, Dec. 22.—With ten presbyteries to hear from, the vote on church union in the Presbyterian church was 141,287 for to 84,264 against. The total vote was as follows:

Maritime Provinces—For, 26,427; against, 19,370.
Montreal and Ottawa—For, 31,476; against, 13,139.
Toronto and Kingston—For, 30,990; against, 26,321.
Hamilton and London—For, 10,748; against, 15,322.
Manitoba—For, 9,780; against, 1,950.
Saskatchewan—For, 12,154; against, 2,144.
Alberta—For, 6,860; against, 2,924.
British Columbia—For, 6,862; against, 3,094.
Totals—For, 141,287; against, 84,264.

GERMAN PATROL BOAT IS WRECKED

London, Dec. 17.—The German patrol boat Hun has been wrecked on the Island of Langeland, in the Baltic Sea, according to a despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Copenhagen. The bodies of several German officers were found on the shore, the despatch adds.

Warning Canadian Shirkers

Wetaskiwin, Alta., Dec. 22.—Hon. Arthur Meighen, solicitor general of Canada, delivered a rousing patriotic address to a large crowd here tonight. Brief addresses were also given by A. H. Aldridge and T. M. Twissler, M. P.'s.

Mr. Meighen, who spoke on "Patriotism," very lucidly reviewed the progress of the war and referred to the dirty despoiling upon every man and woman in Canada at the present time. The people of Canada have done nobly, but they should do even more. We have as much at stake as though our property was in Great Britain. The battlefields are in Flanders, but the greatest prize is right here. If Germany wins this war depend upon it the freedom of this country is gone and our position is comparable with the poor peasant of Europe.

He did not favor compulsory service, but if those who stand on the watch tower in closest touch with the details of the conflict, believing that compulsory service would be the best, then we, as Canadians, would do our duty. Let us put politics and other things aside during the war, and if we do not, insofar as we detract our strength, we will suffer that penalty, as the war will last just that much longer. There can be no doubt as to the ultimate result, as we have the resources and the men, and when they are organized we will win. Perseverance and pluck will win this struggle as it has won conflicts in the past.

AUSTRALIA IS GAME TO FIGHT TO A FINISH

Melbourne, Aus., via London, Dec. 21.—George Foster Pearce, Australian minister of state for defence, in a speech delivered here, said that the Australians did not cavil at the withdrawal of the troops from the Anzac Cove and Suva Bay regions of the Gallipoli peninsula. He declared that this move would neither lessen the determination of the Australians to see the war through nor affect a new effort to raise men.

ZEPPELIN CREW FROZEN TO DEATH

London, Dec. 18.—Eight members of the crew of a Zeppelin airship which raided London, October 13, were found frozen to death on their return to Germany, according to the Daily Express, which, although it is unable to vouch for the truth of the story, says it has been openly discussed in Germany, where it caused a profound impression, and possibly acted as a deterrent to further raids.

FAMOUS CHARACTER DEAD AT OTTAWA

Ottawa, Dec. 23.—Geo. Smith, known to every man who has sat in the parliament of Canada, died here on Wednesday afternoon from a sudden attack of pneumonia. Ever since Confederation the deceased was confidential messenger in the account office of the house of commons. Before that he was in the service of the old parliament in Quebec and in his early life was in the British army.

PREACHER AS FIGHTING MAN

Montreal, Dec. 17.—Rev. V. E. Hobart, of Quebec, has enlisted with the 148th battalion for overseas service, as a fighting man, not a chaplain. He is a provisional lieutenant. For three years he was a lieutenant in the reserve battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers.



The Lacombe Guardian

F. H. SCHOOLEY, PROPRIETOR

GREEK PREMIER CHARGES DIPLOMATIC AND MILITARY BLUNDERS BY ALLIES

London, Dec. 23.—The Athens correspondent of the Daily Chronicle, in a long dispatch sent from the Greek capital December 20, said:

"I have been fortunate enough at this critical time of the Greek general elections to have an interview with Premier and Foreign Minister Skouloudis. The prime minister had just come from the palace, where he had an audience with the king, who, for the second time in a few months, has been laid low with illness. M. Skouloudis spoke with the air of a man who has carried out a brave fight, almost as one who had for a time found the struggle beyond his powers. There was a trace of emotion in his voice as he spoke.

"We are at the most critical moment in our history," he said. "The moment is, alas, even tragic and the future is as black as night. I tell you this because you are not unknown to me, because I have confidence in your integrity and your impartiality as a journalist. The time has come when the truth should be known, when the British people should have an opportunity of forming an unbiased judgment concerning Greece's attitude and Greece's policy.

"My country has been injured; her government has been attacked; yet I say, in all sincerity, the fault is not ours. We have tried to play the game, as you English say, and if we have failed I maintain it is the four-power alliance, not we, who are responsible. In my own way, as head of the government, I have earnestly sought to see eye to eye with the four-power Entente.

"If Greece is not fighting wholeheartedly on your side to-day it is because your statesmen and your diplomatists—I am speaking in general terms of the Quadruple Powers—have failed in their duty toward their respective countries and toward Greece.

"Wholly and disinterestedly I endeavored to avoid a conflict in Macedonia. I sought to prevent poor Macedonia being given over afresh to the horrors of war, being visited with fire and sword, being pillaged, perhaps, and sacked. My poor country! Oh, that I could have saved her from this era of blood and rapine! I Overcome with the thought of which he spoke, the aged statesman bowed his head on his hands and was silent for a few minutes. Then he said:

"The Allies have flouted and angered Greece instead of placating us. Instead of dealing with us frankly the Allies plotted with Bulgaria, while treating us disdainfully. The result is the Allies have fallen between two stools.

"The errors of the Allied Powers' diplomacy have been many. They have suffered from the folly of divided counsels, and now there is an attempt to throw the blame upon Greece.

"If the Allies had come frankly to Greece and her premier, if they had said, 'Come in with us; we want your aid and you may count on clearly defined recompense at the end of the struggle,' Greece, I affirm, would not have hesitated a single minute with this or any other government in power. Instead of this Great Britain and France began by demanding sacrifices from Greece. We are asked to co-operate with the Allies in the Dardanelles, and at the same time were asked to relinquish Kavalla and Serres to our bitterest foes, to give up, in fact, those of our richest provinces, which had been won by Greek blood.

"We were free to shed a little blood in an attempt to force the Dardanelles, but we were warned that on no account were we to dream of marching to Constantinople in the name of Allied success. In fact, in deference, no doubt, to Russia, it was expressly forbidden, in the event of our success, for the Greeks to show their national flag within

fifty miles of the ancient Byzantine capital.

"After all, Greece, too, nourishes her national dreams and ambitions, and if our eyes turn from time to time eastward, who shall say this aspiration is an unworthy one because it emanates from Greek hearts? Let me say further, much as we have felt the bitterness of the treatment accorded us, we have striven to forget the indignities heaped upon us and throughout the whole wretched business our sentiments have ever been on the side of the Allies. We have not forgotten the England of yesterday. We have not forgotten Gladstone and his noble labors in the cause of Greek freedom.

"Our culture today is largely of the Occident. Our thoughts more often have turned toward England and France than toward Germany. The concrete, scientific achievements of the latter have not been lost upon us, but where is the Greek heart that forgets the land that gave us Byron? You have bullied us; we have simply turned the other cheek meekly and uncomplainingly. We honestly sought to aid you and proffered you aid which you rejected.

"In proof of what I say I will tell you something not generally known. When you embarked on the Dardanelles expedition we warned you of its difficulties and its dangers. We emphasized the probability of success on the lines you had chosen. We did more; the Greek general staff long ago had worked out a perfect scheme of operation to be utilized in the event of war between ourselves and Turkey. We still believe you would have succeeded if you had been wise enough to have adopted it. What came of it? Nothing. On the morrow Greece was flouted.

"Such has been our reward. We have been grossly misunderstood and misjudged. I think it right the people of England should know something of this. Because we saw no other reasonable choice, the Allies ignored and humiliated us. We have almost been goaded into hostilities against you.

"Let us take the expedition to Salonika. Whether Greece invited the Allies to come there or not is now beside the question. You are in possession; and I maintain that this government, in listening to and accepting the ever-dominant demands of the Allies' army of occupation has gone to the extreme limit of friendship compatible with neutrality. You have taken our railways and telegraphs and our communications in our territory. In return, everything is done to increase the feeling of irritation at the presence of foreign troops on our soil.

"You have taken everything, yet you ask for more. The other day one of the Entente ministers came here and insolently told me the government had broken promises made by our king. It was untrue, and I left this language was an insult. I told him so and flung his written protest back. Further, my indignation went to the length of communicating officially with the English and French governments, telling them in plain, unpolitic language my opinion of the protest.

"Greece's friendship has been repaid in a singular way. An embargo has been laid on our commerce and our ships held up. A people friendly to the Entente has been within an ace of being starved for want of bread. Our cable communication, too, has been suppressed. In saying all this, I am simply attempting to furnish the Liberals of England and the English people with what I consider an unbiased, dispassionate resume of the Greek case against the Allies.

"I say again, with all emphasis, that if Greece is not on your side today, vainly fighting by your side for the preservation of the high ideals which we have in common, it is because we have seen freely we have done our utmost for you and your cause; that is to say, the utmost you in your own bluster, high-handed and haughty, would permit us to do.

"Now we are faced by a still more terrible problem. How are we to stop our land from being deluged with blood? One set of belligerents already is there, and

a second set is to come. Strictly, they have a perfect right to do so, since the Allies have been allowed to enter. The Austro-Germans may bring their allies, the Bulgarians—what can we do? How can we prevent the ingress of any enemy, who already successful in Macedonia, has an eye on Kavalla and Serres?

"We are hoping for guarantee for retrocession after the war on the occupied territory. We are under no delusions. Paper guarantees are at a discount nowadays. How can we make war on Germany and Austria and two Balkan powers all to oppose the passage of the Bulgarians? We stand every chance of being overwhelmed. Our enemies will be on top of us, because, while our determination to resist invasion by the Bulgarians remains unaltered, our power of offensive has been weakened through our army, at the request of the Allies, having modified its hold on certain strategic positions and essential to the successful conduct of a campaign.

"So, concluded M. Skouloudis, 'as I see it, Greece is to be ravaged by a cruel, relentless war because the Allies badly blundered in a diplomatic as well as a military sense. Do I overstate the case, when I say it is a tragic ruin for my country? I think not.

"M. Skouloudis, while distinctly pessimistic, hoped Greece might yet be spared the horrors of a Bulgarian invasion. He told me he contemplated retiring from the premiership on account of Sunday's general election. When the chamber met, he would tender his resignation as chief of the government. He felt, he said, it was his duty to order that the exacting cares of office might fall on younger shoulders.

"The ministry, in all probability, he said, would be constituted by M. Gounaris, the leader of the party which secured the largest following in the present election. He, M. Skouloudis, would, if necessary, remain and co-operate with the new premier and would make every effort to have Greece keep intact her national honor, her dignity, and territory."

AN EGYPTIAN MENACE

Reports that the Germans are preparing to develop a new offensive against Egypt may be true. There seems little doubt but that large Turkish forces are being concentrated about Bethlehem, Nazareth, and Jerusalem, and it is a natural inference that the army is to be used against Egypt rather than it is to push on to Bagdad. It is far more important for the Turks to gain a foothold in Egypt than to drive the British out of the Garden of Eden, and the Germans unquestionably are encouraging the Ottomans to attempt the recovery of the lost Egyptian protectorate.

The most important objective to the Teutons themselves is to strike a blow at the British Empire and that can only be done with any prospect of success by invading Egypt. Every indication suggests, therefore, that the Germans and Turks are preparing to launch a major offensive against the defenses along the Suez canal.

The chances of success are not favorable to the assailants. The most persistent lesson of the war has been the superiority of defense fighting over offensive. The British ought to have a large advantage because of that fact which should be further increased because of the communication difficulties that must attend any approach upon Egypt from the east. The desert of the Sinai peninsula, 100 miles wide, must be crossed by the invaders, and the military problems of the sands have never yet been solved.

The possibilities exist for a favorable outcome for the Kaiser and sultan. The British may underestimate the strength and tenacity of their enemy as they so often have done heretofore and may lose Egypt through delay in the despatch of a sufficient force for its defence. There are a number of indications, however, that this error is not being committed and that immense concentrations of troops already have been made in Egypt. The only other chance of an offensive success lies in the possibility that the Germans can arm and equip a sufficiently numerous body of

Turks to repeat the overwhelming tactics that have just proved successful in Serbia. Time alone can demonstrate whether the Teutonic munitions factories are capable of performing this feat.

THE WORLD'S RECORD BREAKERS

The exposures in the courts of the United States are possibly beginning to demonstrate to Uncle Sam what a nice, peaceable (?) law-abiding (?) aggregation of citizens he has been entertaining under the guise of German-Americans. It's a dull day across the line that does not provide evidence of some fresh outrage which the hyphenated were attempting either in the United States or just across the international boundary, under the protecting folds of the Stars and Stripes and American citizenship. Not only were some munition plants of the United States States marked for destruction, but the cultured (?) Teutons proposed to blow up almost every international powder plant on the American continent. One must acknowledge the superiority of the cultured brain of the German. If there is any crime that these Hunnish murderers have not thought of, it is something which is past the imagination of any human being. Honor must be accorded, where honor is due, and to the Hun must be given the distinction of discovering every known, novel and possible means of murder and killing. A splendid record, indeed, has been that of the preachers of civilization, science, and culture during the past eighteen months of the war—so splendid, in fact, that if the Kaiser's emissaries can only keep up their barbarous accomplishments there will not be a civilized person on this or any other continent who will not be thoroughly ashamed to acknowledge that a drop of Teuton blood runs through their veins.

SOME STATISTICAL RECORDS

Those who revel in new Canadian records should feel in high kiffle. In the past few weeks some notable figures have been recorded. The first internal war loan of \$50,000,000 was subscribed by \$54,000,000. The bank savings deposits in October at \$710,000,000, were the highest on record. The wheat crop of the western provinces is estimated by the government at 304,000,000 bushels, as against the previous record of 200,000,000 bushels. Canadian Pacific Railway net earnings in October were nearly \$1,000,000 greater than for any one month previously. November bank clearings of \$909,000,000 were better than for any other November on record. Winnipeg's bank clearings of \$246,000,000 in November are \$32,000,000 more than Winnipeg's previous high record. The national revenue during November showed an increase of \$7,000,000 over that of November last year, and was the largest revenue for any month in Canada's history. Canadian exports in October were \$54,000,000 or \$24,000,000 more than in any previous month on record. The trade balance is constantly improving in our favor.

While these figures are satisfactory, we must remember that many of the records are caused by the trend of events due to the war. Great Britain's daily war bill is \$25,000,000. We are, therefore, to make some pretty substantial records to help carry the empire's financial burden.

GERMAN ELECTRICITY

How a part of the British line was supplied with German electricity was told a few days ago by a member of the London Irish Rifles. British telephone linemen found two live cable wires back of the British lines in Northern France. The wires came from a German generating station somewhere across No Man's Land. The linemen soon fitted wires and piped the current into the battalion headquarters, the dressing stations, officers' dugouts, and other points. Incandescent lamps were supplied from a nearby village, and German electricity was thoroughly enjoyed "by all."



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Dates of sale Dec. 1st to 31st, 1915. Return limit 3 months

To Vancouver and Victoria, B.C.

Dates of sale—Dec. 7, 8, 9, 10, 1915

Jan. 11, 12, 13, 14, Feb. 8, 9, 10, 11, 1916

Return limit April 30th, 1916

Full information, steamship and sleeping car reservations from any Canadian Pacific Ticket Agent

R. DAWSON, District Passenger Agent, Calgary.

The New Year's Gift

The world rejoices at Christmas time. The spirit of good fellowship is supreme and we look around for something to gladden the hearts of a friend. The day is past, the New Year is ushered in and again we rejoice and sometimes give a present.

To those who desire to make a New Year's gift, we would like to say that we have a nice line of JEWELRY and CUT GLASS, selected to suit the most particular.

We thank you for the patronage you have favored us with in the past, and as the Old Year vanishes away, we wish all our friends and customers a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

"Five Foot Past the Entrance of the Royal Bank."

PAUL HOTSON

Jeweler and Optician. Issuer of Marriage Licenses

Royal Bank Building

Barnett Ave., Lacombe

Local News Items

We wish a happy and prosperous New Year to all our readers.

Mrs. R. L. Tracy left last week for Didsbury to visit her sister, Mrs. Dr. Ross.

S. H. Kanngiesser, of Edmonton, is spending his Christmas holidays here with his parents.

For Sale—A lady's nice black astrachan fur coat, size 34, for sale at a bargain. Apply at Guardian office.

Dr. Pollard, of Vancouver, formerly of Regina, has come up to take over Dr. Shute's practice while the Dr. is at the front.

The local branch of the Red Cross Society has received, from Calgary acknowledgement of the sale of goods and two cheques sent in a few days ago.

Don't forget the Patriotic Dance at the Lockhart School-house on Friday night, Jan. 7th. Eekville String Band in attendance. Tickets, \$1.00; ladies free.

Messrs. Sladen & Smith, Ringwood Stock Farm, Lacombe, were successful exhibitors at the Provincial Seed Fair at Calgary, securing third prize for Marquis wheat. They have 160 bushels of finest seed for sale.

Haarsted Bros., Bentley, pulled in their threshing outfit on Saturday night, after a most successful season. They threshed over 100,000 bushels, in the Bentley district, and report some extraordinary yields.

The regular meeting of the Women's Institute will be held in the Rest-Room on the second Saturday in January instead of the first Saturday, it being New Year's Day. The hour of meeting will be 3 o'clock.

The hockey match on Xmas night, the first of the season, between the 66th Battalion team and Lacombe's aggregation, resulted in a win for the former after a good contest. The attendance was large, the gate amounting to \$73.00.

Accountant Craig and Ledger-keeper Dick, of the Merchants Bank staff, Lacombe, have enlisted for service abroad. This makes three of the staff of that institution now with the colors. Manager Shields having enlisted some weeks ago. And more will follow.

Bert Simpson, Harry Parker, Harold Barnett, John Lund, Irvine Lund, Fred Nelles, Jas. Nelles, Fred Steers, and others, members of the various overseas battalions stationed at Calgary and Edmonton, spent the Christmas week-end at their homes in Lacombe.

BORN

WAUGH—At Lacombe, on Sunday, Dec. 26th, to Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Waugh, a son.

LOCAL IMPROVEMENT

DISTRICT NO. 390

Lacombe, Dec. 18, 1915.
Council of above district met in the Town Hall, all being present, with Jas. Sharp in the chair.

Minutes of previous meeting were read, and it was moved by Edie, seconded by Miller, that they be adopted as read. Carried.

Moved by Edie, seconded by Southward, That the Secretary be instructed to write the Department of Municipal Affairs and enquire what power the L. I. D. has in regard to taking care of the returned soldiers in conjunction with the Central Provincial Committee and Military Hospital Commission. Carried.

Moved by Edie, seconded by Foren, That no action be taken regarding the correspondence from the Secretary of the Alberta Association of L. I. Districts and Rural Municipalities. Carried.

Moved by Edie, seconded by Foren, That the Secretary be instructed to write Attorney-General's Department and inform him that this Council has no power to appropriate the funds of district to pay such accounts as the one forwarded for board re William Woods. Carried.

Moved by Edie, seconded by Foren, That the following accounts be passed and Treasurer be instructed to pay the same.

Fred Gale,	\$ 75
J. G. McCullough,	1.00
L. A. Hill,	5.15
John McNab,	2.05
J. J. Kasha,	10.00
E. W. Simpson, Tel.,	7.00
Post-Master, Lacombe,	61.00
Rowe & Parsons,	6.00
Edmonton Law Stationers,	2.30
F. A. Jacobsen,	6.00
H. Gottschick,	75
Morrison & Johnston,	20.35
Paradis,	8.75

Moved by Miller, seconded by Storey, That the labor pay-sheets, amounting to \$3,557.60, be passed, Chairman authorized to sign, and Treasurer instructed to pay the same. Carried.

Moved by Foren, seconded by Southward, That the following be appointed returning officers and places of polling at the forthcoming election of Councilors.

Div. No. 1—Jas. Sage; Jones Valley School.
Div. No. 2—Jas. McNicoll; McNicoll's Office, Blackfalds.
Div. No. 3—J. J. Kasha; Town Hall, Lacombe.
Div. No. 4—J. Storey; A. Hastings' House.
Div. No. 5—F. Gale; R. Maden's House.
Div. No. 6—F. Butcher; F. Butcher's House.

Moved by Edie, seconded by Southward—Owing to the great destruction of live stock, both sheep and cattle, in this province, I move that this Council petition the Provincial Legislature at its next session, through our local representative, that a bounty be placed on coyotes sufficient to bring about their extermination. Carried.

Moved by Storey, seconded by Edie, That the following accounts of Councilors, for services rendered the district, be passed and Treasurer ordered to pay the same.

Div. No. 1—Jas. Sharp,	\$99.75
Div. No. 2—F. H. Miller,	\$99.70
Div. No. 3—J. M. Southward,	\$99.25
Div. No. 4—J. L. Storey,	\$82.20
Div. No. 5—D. Foren,	\$98.10
Div. No. 6—James Edie,	\$105.90

Moved by Miller, seconded by Edie, That the Secretary be instructed to pay the sum of four hundred and twenty-two dollars and twenty-four cents in settlement of the agreement made with S. W. Paisley's solicitor, a 150 that Secretary direct Div. No. 2 with the sum of fifty dollars and charge same to Div. No. 1 to help in the above compensation. Carried.

Moved by Miller, seconded by Storey, That the sum of one hundred dollars be the amount paid to Chas. Ball for a water-course through a part of N.W. 17-39-26-4, between top of hill on road running S. W. to creek, starting at any given point between top of hill and the bend in road south. Carried.

Moved by Foren, seconded by Edie, That a hearty vote of thanks be tendered the mayor

and several councillors of the Town of Lacombe for the use of the Town Hall for council meetings during the past year. Carried.

The minutes of the above meeting were read, and it was moved by Foren, seconded by Miller, That they be adopted as read. Carried.

Moved by Edie, seconded by Southward, That a vote of thanks be tendered the chairman for the very able and amicable manner in which he had filled the chair during 1915.

The chairman then thanked the councillors for the vote of thanks and said he hoped they would all be elected again.

JAS. SHARP, Chairman.
E. WALTER SIMPSON, Sec.-Treas., L. I. D. No. 399.

SUDDEN DEATH OF

JAMES SPEAKMAN, PRESIDENT OF U. F. A.

James Speakman, president of the United Farmers of Alberta, died at his home in Calgary on Tuesday, Dec. 21, after an illness of one week of pneumonia. In his death the United Farmers' of Alberta loses one of its most energetic and interested workers. The late Mr. Speakman was 70 years of age, and it is thought that the cares of his office and responsibilities he felt for the large organization with which he was connected had their effect on his constitution. During the year which he was president he was instrumental in bringing the matter of woman suffrage to an issue and in all probability had he lived many more progressive measures would have marked his term of presidency.

The deceased had, until the last year resided at Penhold, where he was for years a successful farmer. He is survived by a widow, three sons, one in Winnipeg, one in Penhold, and a third son, Frank, who is a member of the staff of Victoria school in Calgary.

The funeral was held on Thursday last, interment taking place at Penhold.

London, Dec. 23.—The British treasury advanced £200,000,000 to enable the government to meet their obligations during the early days of the war. In giving this information to the house of commons, Reginald McKenna added that 82 per cent. of these advances had already been outstanding on November 30 last.

Lacombe 2nd Hand Store

I buy and sell second-hand goods

I handle Bankrupt Stock—Clothing, Hardware, Furniture, Beds, Springs and Mattresses, the Famous Monarch line of Stoves and Ranges, Cooking Utensils, Trunks and Valises, Galvanized and Enamelware, Sewing Machines, Guns and Ammunitions, Phonographs and Records, Musical Instruments of all kinds, and Jewelry. Real Estate bought and sold. Get my prices before buying.

O. BOODE, Nanton St.

EDWIN H. JONES

Barriater, Solicitor and Notary

P. O. Box 148 Phone No. 10 Office Denike Block, Barnett Ave

Magnet Lodge No. 12 I. O. O. F.

Meets in Masonic Hall, Lacombe, every Thursday evening at 8 o'clock. Visiting brothers always welcome.—F. H. Schooley, N. G., Geo. Baker, R. S.

New Goods Now in Stock



Men's and Boys' Shoes
Rubbers and Overshoes
Felt Shoes
Sheepskin Shoes
Moose Moccasins
Oil Tan Moccasins
Men's Leather Leggings
Winter Mitts and Gloves for Men and Boys
Prices Low

L. PETERKA

Opposite Titworth's Furniture Store Lacombe

Why is Your Home Built of Wood?

BECAUSE WOOD IS:

STRONG —Weight for weight it is stronger than any other building material.	ATTRACTIVE —For interior finish, wood is unrivalled in its soft coloring and vitality.
DURABLE —Properly used, it lasts for generations.	WHOLESALE —Wood is sanitary, healthful, not noisy, and is of pleasing and friendly appearance.
EASILY WORKED —It is shaped and joined with simple tools.	CHEAP —Abundant, accessible, easily handled, manufactured and erected, wood is the cheapest of all building materials.
IMPERVIOUS —Neither wind nor water will go through it.	A NON-CONDUCTOR OF HEAT —It is warm in winter and cool in summer.

THESE QUALITIES ALSO MAKE WOOD THE BEST MATERIAL FOR BARNES AND OTHER FARM BUILDINGS.

FARM BUILDING PLANS

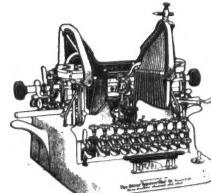
The British Columbia Forest Service is publishing a series of bulletins on farm buildings, the plans for which, the bills of material, and instructions how to build were prepared by the College of Agriculture of the University of Saskatchewan. The Forest Service has supplied information concerning the best woods to use.

Any of the following bulletins in which you are interested will be mailed free on application to the Chief Forester, Victoria, B. C. Complete reference sets will also be supplied lumber dealers on request.

1. General Purpose Barns.	6. Piggeries & Smoke Houses
2. Dairy Barns.	7. Poultry Houses.
3. Beef Cattle Barns.	8. Implement Sheds and Granaries.
4. Horse Barns.	9. Silos and Root Cellars.
5. Sheep Barns.	10. Farm Houses.

BRITISH COLUMBIA HAS A WOOD FOR EVERY USE GROWN AND MANUFACTURED IN CANADA

BUILD UP THE WEST BY BUYING WESTERN PRODUCTS.



Reasons Why

The OLIVER Typewriter

Is Superior to all others

- Rapid Escapement**—The escapement mechanism is exceedingly simple and positive, and, although it is very rapid, is almost frictionless.
- Light, Elastic Key Touch**—The key touch is wonderfully light, elastic, and most pleasing, offering the least resistance to the fingers.

Watch this space for further reasons.

F. H. SCHOOLEY, Agent, Lacombe

THE
LEAD-
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STORE

Great Stock REDUCING SALE

THE
LEAD-
ING
STORE

12 DAYS ONLY

JANUARY 3 We open our Great Stock Reducing Sale, which will last for 12 days only. As this is our month for stock taking, we find a great many lines of goods in all the departments which must be moved out at a price that will dispose of them on short notice. It will pay you to come early and get first choice. **REMEMBER**, all goods on bargain are up-to-date and made of the best materials. Below you will find just a few of the values we are offering.

Flannelette

500 yards of pink and blue striped Flannelette, extra good quality, full width, special, 7 yds for.....95c

Kimona Cloth

10 pieces of Kimona Cloth, in stripes, light and dark patterns, special value, reg 20-25c on sale per yd....15c

Dress Gingham

300 yds of good Dress Gingham, in stripes and checks, splendid quality, reg 15c on sale per yd.....10c

Children's Sweaters

We have a good assortment of Children's Sweaters in navy, brown, red, white; reg \$1.25 and 1.50 for.....\$1.00

Prints! Prints!

500 yds of Prints, in light colors, a good variety of patterns, special on sale per yd.....12c

Shoes! Shoes!

All regular ladies' and children's Shoes at a discount of.....25 per cent

Furs! Furs!

Now is the time to buy your Furs when you can get them at.....Half Price

Children's Coats

Fifteen only Children's Coats, from 2 to 10 years, in white, brown, navy, and a great many other shades, at special prices:

Reg \$2.50 on sale.....\$1.95
" 3.00 " 2.15
" 4.00 " 2.85
" 5.00 " 3.90
" 6.50 " 4.75

Misses' Coats

8 only Misses' Coats, size 12 and 14 years. These are well made, perfect fitting, in navy, brown, and cardinal. Regular \$10.00 and \$12.00 on sale.....\$7.50

Ladies' Hoods

2 doz Ladies' Hoods, all wool, assorted colors.
Reg \$1.50 on sale.....\$1.00
" 1.00 "75

Sheeting! Sheeting!

300 yds of Sheeting, in twill and plain weave, bleached, reg 30c for.....23c
" 35c for.....28c
" 40c for.....32c
" 45c for.....37c

Ladies' Felt Shoes

All Ladies' Felt Shoes, reg \$2.50 and \$2.75 for.....\$1.75

Misses' Felt Shoes

All our Misses' Felt Shoes on sale, reg \$2.00 and \$2.25 for.....\$1.50

Ladies' Coats

Half Price

25 Ladies' Tweed and heavy winter Coats on sale at Half Price. This is the greatest bargain we are offering. Come and look them over.

reg \$12, half price \$6.00
" 15. " " 7.50
" 18. " " 9.00
" 20. " " 10.00
" 25. " " 12.50

Ladies' Fur

Collar Coats

These are extra heavy Coats, quilted fur collars, colors are black, navy, brown, grey, red.

Out they go at Half Price:

Reg \$18. for \$9.00 Reg \$25. for \$12.50
" 20. for 10.00 " 30. for 15.00

Grocery Department

Royal Household Flour per cwt.....\$3.25
" " 500 lb lots..... 3.15
Glenora Flour per cwt..... 3.00
" " 500 lb lots..... 2.90
Centennial Flour per cwt..... 2.75
" " 500 lb lots..... 2.70
Stroms Milling Co. Flour
No. 1 Sterling Brand per cwt..... 3.00
" " 500 lb lots..... 2.90
Golden Rod Brand per cwt..... 2.85
" " 500 lb lots..... 2.75
Corn, Peas and Beans, per tin..... 10c
Tomatoes, 2 tins for..... 25c
No Vary Ketchup, per bottle..... 25c
Finest Sockeye Salmon, per tin..... 25c
Other lines per tin..... 15c and 20c
Pure Strawberry Jam, 4 lb tin..... 75c
Pure Raspberry Jam, 4 lb tin..... 75c
Hams, special per lb..... 18c
L. & B. Jams, Strawberry and Apple, per tin..... 45c
" " Raspberry and Apple, per tin..... 45c
Rome Beauty Apples, per box..... 1.75
Sugar, per 20 lb sack..... 1.65

Clothing Department

20 per cent off all Clothing except navy blue.

One lot of Suits at.....\$9.90 worth up to \$14.00

One lot of Suits at.....\$6.90 worth up to \$10.00

Fur Coats

Cub Bear Fur Coats.....\$17.90

Korean Beaver..... 22.50

Black Beaver Cloth Fur

Collar Overcoats, full

Chamois lined, worth

\$25.00 worth \$15..... 9.95

Black Melton Fur Collar

Overcoats, worth \$15..... 9.95

Special prices on Fancy Mackinaws.

All above goods have advanced in prices and are exceptional values at these prices.

Horse Blankets

3 only Blankets, reg \$3.50 for \$2.75

10 " " 2.15 for 1.65

5 " " 2.50 for 2.15

12 " " 1.65 for 1.25

2 " " 3.00 for 2.45

Air Tight Heaters

Reg \$2.40 on sale.....\$2.15

" 2.75 " 2.45

" 3.25 " 2.90

" 3.65 " 3.15

" 4.00 " 3.40

Sunbeam Heaters

Reg \$7.00 for.....\$6.00

" 9.00 for..... 7.50

" 11.00 for..... 9.50

" 13.50 for.....12.00

25 per cent off on all cloth Overcoats for men and boys.

20 per cent off on all Gloves, Mitts, and Pull-overs.

25 per cent off any Hat or Cap in our entire stock.

Dress Gloves, Mitts both lined and unlined, Sheep Moccasins, Oil Tan Shoe Packs, Wool Shirts, and a lot of odds and ends in Underwear both wool and fleece lined, at very special prices.

Belle Oak Heaters

Reg \$18.00 on sale.....\$16.00

Reg 22.00 on sale..... 20.00

Very Hot Blast Heaters

Reg \$17.00 for.....\$15.00

" 20.00 for..... 18.00

" 23.00 for..... 20.50

1 only Excelsior Farmers' Food Cooker, 50 gal capacity, on sale.....\$23.50

Washing Machine

1 only Snowball Washing Machine, reg \$9.50 for.....\$7.50

1 only Rex Washing Machine reg \$13.50 for.....\$11.00

Skates.....30 per cent dis.

Whips all kinds 30 per cent dis.

A. M. CAMPBELL, LACOMBE